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OJJ Expands Hotline to Include Employees 1.800.626.1430

OJJ has expanded its toll free hotline, currently available to secure care youth, for use by staff statewide to bring their concerns to management while maintaining strict confidentiality. "Sometimes we become aware of problems ranging from ethics violations to contraband in the facilities and everything in between, and although I encourage staff to report through the chain of command whenever possible, we recognize that sometimes an anonymous call is the most effective way to communicate such concerns and make sure that management is aware of these problems," said Dr. Mary Livers.

"I have been discussing the issue of the "code of silence" for some time," Dr. Livers said, "and I urge OJJ staff to take responsibility for bringing rule violations and other issues to our attention. We are not trying to create a culture of "snitching" or tattling on our co-workers. But we must be aware of issues that compromise the safety of our staff, and the youth in our care and custody, and safeguard the integrity of the agency. The hotline will provide a way for staff to let management know about things that need to be investigated while at the same time, protecting the identity of the caller. The message to all staff is to do the right thing. If you make a mistake, report it, learn from it, and hopefully we can move on in a positive way."

The Investigative Services Unit currently maintains and monitors the hotline that youth in our secure care facilities may use to report their concerns. Calls are recorded and Investigative Services staff listen to the messages daily. Calls may be made from any telephone, anywhere, and callers never have to identify themselves.

The number for the OJJ hotline is 1.800.626.1430.